



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 21-0986	Date:	September 1, 2021
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Michaelson Jenet; Pelton Sen. Winter	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
		Fiscal Analyst:	Matt Bishop 303-866-4796 Matt.Bishop@state.co.us

Bill Topic: MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE ACT

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill directs the Department of Human Services to establish education requirements for licensed addiction counselors in rule. It increases state workload in FY 2021-22.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill directs the State Board of Human Services in the Department of Human Services to promulgate rules specifying education requirements for licensed addiction counselors in lieu of the existing statutory requirements, and adjusts the experience requirements for licensure. It also clarifies the circumstances under which an addiction practitioner may provide clinical supervision for a person working toward a professional credential.

Background

Mental health professionals, including psychologists, social workers, professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, registered psychotherapists, and addiction counselors are regulated by the corresponding professional board in the Department of Regulatory Agencies, and must be registered, certified, or licensed to practice. There are typically between 25,000 and 29,000 active registrations, certifications, and licenses in a given year.

State Expenditures

For FY 2021-22, workload will increase in the Department of Human Services to conduct rulemaking as required by the bill and the Department of Regulatory Agencies to conduct outreach to mental health professionals and to train regulatory boards on the new requirements. This workload increase can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor on June 30, 2021 and took effect on July 1, 2021.

State and Local Government Contacts

Human Services

Law

Regulatory Agencies